



The Chronicle

JUNE 2006

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STAFF PROFILE: JENNIFER BLACK

Question: How do you impress a new boss when you've just been hired as Director of Grants and Resource Development? Answer: You win a highly competitive federal grant for \$15 million in your first three months on the job.

And that's exactly what Jennifer Black, Shelton State Community College's new Director of Grants and Resource Development did. From conception to final submission, Black had one month, not only to write the grant but also to create and facilitate a two state consortium of partners who would participate in the Department of Labor's new WIRED initiative – Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development.

"The grant struck me because of the potential it held to really impact the economic conditions of some of the poorest counties in West Alabama," said Black. "I also realized however that to be competitive and have a shot at winning this thing, we would need to also bring on several strategic partners and increase our proposed service area."

Thus Black launched a search for partners in East Mississippi and because the application could only be submitted by state governors, she doubled the number of hoops that had to be jumped through dealing with both the Alabama and Mississippi Governor's

Offices, two state offices of Workforce Development and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Of course this 30 day period was from December 7 to January 5 – not the easiest season of the year to get things accomplished. "There was a huge amount of work to be done and of course the campus was about to close for the holidays. I wasn't going to let that obstacle daunt us, so off to Florida for the holidays I went: laptop, wireless internet card, research files, husband, baby and Christmas presents," laughed Black.

Long hours, long days but on February 1, immediately after President Bush's State of the Union address, where he announced the program, Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao revealed the 13 regions throughout the United States that had been chosen to receive \$15 million.

"Can I say I was more than happy?" smiled Black.

"Can I say, I was more than proud of the outstanding work she did and the dedication she showed during this process," said Lew Drummond, Director of Advancement for Shelton State and Jennifer's new boss.

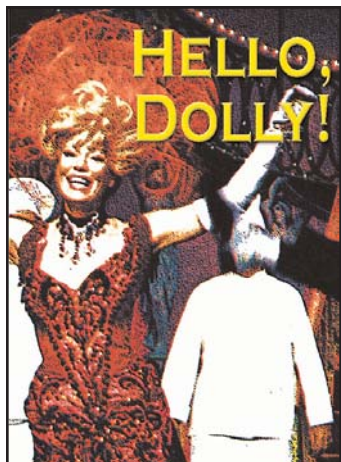


Black joined the staff of Shelton State Community College after serving as Director of Marketing for The Veterans Corporation in Alexandria, Virginia. There she developed the company's communication plan, created brochures and other marketing documents, and wrote and edited newsletters.

She's held marketing jobs with telecommunications companies, newspapers and non-profit organizations. She received her B.S. degree from Florida State University and her M.A. from Wake Forest University. In addition to her grant writing duties, she also teaches public speaking at Shelton State. Married to her high school sweetheart, Black is the mother of a 2 year old daughter.

Jennifer has prepared a "how-to" kit for use by Shelton State faculty and staff on grant preparation. The kit explains how her office approaches looking for a grant and gives faculty members information on how to help her office identify needs and opportunities in the wide world of grant development. The information is available to faculty and staff through their division chair or by contacting her directly at 391-3965 or by email at jennifer.black@sheltonstate.edu.

“Hello Dolly!” Comes to Theatre Tuscaloosa Stage



Theatre Tuscaloosa will continue its 2005-2006 Season with “Hello Dolly,” running June 16 through 25 at the Bean-Brown Theatre on the campus of Shelton State Community College at 9500 Old Greensboro Road in Tuscaloosa.

Based on the play “The Matchmaker” by Thornton Wilder, it features a book by Michael Stewart, and music and lyrics by Jerry Herman. This is the musical that turned the scheming woman into a lovable heroine, and introduced great songs like “Before the Parade Passes By,” “Put On Your Sunday Clothes,” and of course the title song, “Hello Dolly.” Slapstick comedy and beautiful melodies intertwine in one of musical theater’s most lovable shows, and everybody gets a happily-ever-after.

“Hello Dolly” opened January 16, 1964 on Broadway with Carol Channing in the title role and ran for 2844 performances, making it the longest playing Broadway musical at that time. It won 10 Tony Awards for Musical, Actress, Author, Producer, Director, Composer and Lyricist, Conductor and Musical Director, Scenic Designer, Costume Designer and Choreographer, as well as The New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Musical.

“Hello Dolly!” at Theatre Tuscaloosa is directed by artistic director emeritus Paul K. Looney, who has been involved in the organization since 1980. Looney is also providing scenic design for

the show. Musical Director is Leslie Poss, manager of the Tuscaloosa Symphony and director of the Tuscaloosa Community Singers. Choreographer is Stephen de Ghelder, who has choreographed many shows for Theatre Tuscaloosa including “Chicago,” “My Fair Lady,” “The World Goes ‘Round” as well as production numbers for the Alabama Stage and Screen Hall of Fame Gala.

The role of Dolly Levi, one of the most famous in musical theatre, will be played by Ava Buchanan. Her Theatre Tuscaloosa career includes leads in “Into the Woods,” “Mame,” “Anything Goes,” and “I Do! I Do!”. She was last seen on the Bean-Brown stage in “Steel Magnolias.” Opposite Buchanan in the role of “half-millionaire” Horace Vandergelder is Charles Prosser, who is no stranger to Tuscaloosa audiences, having appeared in “Big River,” “Plaza Suite,” “A Little Night Music,” and “Smoke on the Mountain” among many others. The rest of the cast includes Ray Taylor as Vandergelder’s employee Cornelius Hackl and Lisa Waldrop in the role of his romantic interest Irene Molloy. Other key roles are portrayed by Erin Hutson (Minnie Faye), Westley Keiser (Barnaby Tucker), Barry Bonner (Ambrose Kemper), Kathryn David (Ermengarde), Russell Frost (Rudolph), Joey Lay (Judge), Elliot Moon (Court Clerk), Jameson Sanford (Stanley) and Hillary Burke (Ernestina). Also in the cast are Chris Ingram, Phillip Bambarger, Jake Boyd, Calvin

Parker, Clifton Baker, Matt Cornelson, Marlin Ward, Wright Gatewood, Willie Williams, Sara Carroll, Laura Jacobs, Kelly Brown, Meredith Richter, Tiffany Jones, Kristina Nelson, Cindy Waldrop and Sara Cunningham.

Ticket prices are: Adults \$22, Seniors/Students/Children \$17, SSCC students \$6 with discounts available for groups. Performances are scheduled June 16, 17, 22, 23 and 24 at 7:30 P.M. and June 18, 21 and 25 at 2:00 P.M. For information about tickets, group rates or to purchase tickets by phone, call 205-391-2277 or visit the Theatre Tuscaloosa website at www.theatretusc.com.

Theatre Tuscaloosa, one of the largest community theatres in the state, works in partnership with Shelton State Community College to provide quality theatrical experiences to the citizens of West Alabama through performances, workshops and classroom instruction. By combining the talent and resources of the non-profit theatre company with the facilities and administrative support of “Alabama’s Community College of the Fine Arts,” Theatre Tuscaloosa and Shelton State Community College have created a partnership model that has enriched the lives of countless of Alabamians.

FORMER STUDENT STAYS IN TOUCH



I thought you would like to read this e-mail from one of our former students. I know you will be proud for Scott. He was the James B. Allen recipient the year he finished at Shelton. He really has represented Shelton well at UAB.
- Syble Coats

-----Original Message-----
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2006 12:52 PM
To: Coats, Syble
Subject: Scott Topazi

Mrs. Coats,

This is Scott Topazi. I would hope that you would remember me from a few years back. I wanted to check in and see how things are at Shelton State these days and let you all know what I am up to.

I am graduating with music honors from UAB tomorrow (Saturday May 6th) in Music Technology. They

have a program called The Young Performing Artist Program that you have to audition for to be a part of it. The audition usually takes place during your jury. Since I am in that program, I was required to give a Young Performing Artist Program Senior Recital. I would love to send you a copy of it and let you see it. I was very pleased with the performance. There are two other seniors that had to give a YPAP recital also.

I received quite a number of awards this year. One of them being the Outstanding YPAP Student. I also received an Outstanding Leadership Award. Also Outstanding Instrumentalist and the overall Outstanding Music Student Award. Each department at UAB selects one student to represent that department to receive an award. The Music

Department selected me, so I am up against six other students to receive an award. I will also be graduating Magna Cum Laude.

It has definitely been an exciting year, especially being a drum major last fall for the UAB Marching Blazers. I expect it to only become more exciting in the future because I am planning to continue my graduate studies in Music Performance at The University of North Texas.

I will be by Monday (May 8th) to request transcript information to be sent to UNT and I will definitely stop by if you are available. I look forward to hearing from you and talking with you soon. Thank you for your time and for everything you have done for me in the past.

Sincerely,
Scott Topazi

Alabama Two-Year College Library Leadership Initiative

Debbie Grimes, Director of Library Services, has planned the "Alabama Two-Year College Library Leadership Initiative" with Lucinda Beddow, Calhoun Community College, and Dr. Robert Burkhardt, Athens State University.

Grimes will be also making a presentation on "Coaching for Success," a workshop designed to acquaint supervisors with techniques to motivate and enhance the effectiveness of staff members. This segment of the workshop will explore the concept of coaching as a

management tool, consider leadership styles and their effects on supervision and examine Thane Crossley's five steps to coaching for success.

The workshop is scheduled for Friday, June 9, 2006, at the Department of Postsecondary Education office in Montgomery.



Members of Shelton State's Nursing faculty were on hand as Governor Bob Riley signed the Nurses Week proclamation in Montgomery.